

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /061 W

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O 141245Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5009

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBSSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 1042

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MZ, RH

SUBJECT: ANC MEMBER COMMENTS ON DAR ES SALAAM UNITY MEETING

REF: (A) MAPUTO 800; (B) MAPUTO 999

DAR FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

1. REV. WEBSTER MUTAMBA, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO BISHOP ABEL MUZOREWA, CAME TO THE EMBASSY SEPTEMBER 13 TO RETURN SOME BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS THAT HE HAD BORROWED FROM EMBOFF. ALTHOUGHT MUTAMBA DID NOT ATTEND THE DAR MEETING, HE SAID HE DISCUSSED IT WITH BISHOP MUZOREWA SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO MAPUTO ON SEPTEMBER 10. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS:

2. REV. NABANINGI SITHOLE'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE ANC DID NOT COME AS SURPRISE TO BISHOP MUZOREWA OR ANC EFECUTIVE. SITHOLE HAD BEEN GOING HIS OWN WAY FOR SOME TIME AND A BREAK APPEARED TO BE INEVITABLE.

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3. THE ANC DOES NOT REGARD REV. SITHOLE'S DEPARTURE AS BEING VERY SIGNIFICANT. ONLY SIGNIFICANT ANC LOSS AS RESULT OF SITHOLE'S WITHDRAWAL IS JOSEPH MASANGOMAYI, A YOUNG LAWYER ON THE ZLC EXECUTIVE, WHO NOW ACTING AS SPOKESMAN FOR SITHOLE. MOST OF THE OTHER FORMER ZANU LEADERS WHO JOINED ANC INCLUDING NOEL MUKONO AND SIMPSON MUTAMBANANGE, WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT BISHOP MUZOREWA'S ANC. MUTAMBA INDICATED THAT SITHOLE'S INABILITY TO CARRY A LARGE FOLLOWING ALONG WITH HIM WILL SHOW HOW STRONG THE ANC IS.

4. SITHOLE IS CURRENTLY IN A DAR ESNSALAAM HOSPITAL. AFTER THE MARATHON SESSION BETWEEN THE COMPETING ZIMBABWEAN FACTIONS IN DAR, SITHOLE HAD TO BE HOSPITALIZED FOR EXHAUSTION AND FATIGUE. SITHOLE WILL PROBABLY RETURN TO MAPUTO WHEN HE IS WELL.

5. SITHOLE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BACK INTO ZANU. MOST OF THE ZANU CADRE SUPPORT EITHER ROBERT MUGABE OR KARANGA ELEMENTS IN ZANU.

6. MUTAMBA SAID THAT SITHOLE GAVE THREE REASONS FOR LEAVING THE ANC:
FIRST, ANC WAS "UNPRODUCTIVE AND INEFFECTIVE;"
SECOND, ANC HAD NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO GO TO THE GUERRILLA CAMPS IN MOZAMBIQUE, AND
THIRD, SOME ANC OFFICIALS WERE PURLOINING ANC FUNDS. MUTAMBA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ANC LEADERS HAD BEEN DENIED ACCESS TO GUERRILLA CAMPS, BUT SAID THE OTHER TWO ALLEGATIONS FIT SITHOLE AND NOT BISHOP MUZOREWA, WHO ACCORDING MUTAMBA WAS BEYOND REPROACH.

7. MUTAMBA SAID THAT ROBERT MUGABE WAS A STALKING HORSE FOR THE KARANGA ELEMENTS IN THE ZANU/ZIPA. MUTAMBA CLAIMED THAT MUGABE, WHO IS A ZEZURU, IS BEING USED BY THE KARANGA LEADERS IN ZANU/ZIPA TO GIVE THEIR ORGANIZATION A BETTER PUBLIC IMAGE, THE KARANGA'S ARE POWER HUNGRY AND DETERMINED TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE ZIMBABWE STRUGGLE. MUGABE WAS ONLY ONE OF THE PERSONS BEING USED TO FURTHER KARANGA ENDS. THE "BEHIND-THE-SCENES-" KARANGA LEADERS
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INCLUDE JOSEPH TADEREREA, MICHAEL MAWEMA, JAMES BASSOPO MOYO AND FNU MPOKO.

3. MUZOREWA TOLD MUTAMBA THAT IT WAS NKOMO WHO BALKED AT REUNIFICATION OF FIGHTING FORCE. NKOMO COMPLAINED THAT UNDER ZIPA THE EX-ZAPU GUERRILLAS WERE MURDERED AND DISCRIMINATED AGAINST. NKOMO SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT HIS FIGHTING CADRES BEFORE HE COULD SPEAK FOR

THEM ON ANY SUCH MATTER.

9. MUTAMBA STATED THAT THE ANC IS IN A BETTER POSITON THAN ANY OTHER FACTION BECAUSE (ACCORDING MUTAMBA) IT HAS OVERWHELMING SUPPORT INSIDE RHODESIA AND IT IS NOT PLAGUED BY TRIBALISM OR INDIVIDUAL SZLF-AGGRANDIZEMENT AS ARE THE OTHER MOVEMENTS.

10 SPECULATING ON WHAT NEXT, MUTAMBA STATED THAT THERE WILL BE A "CLEANSING" OF ANC TO REMOVE CORRUPT AND UNDISCIPLINED ELEMENTS. HE DID NOT RULE OUT A FURTHER MEETING OF ZIMBABWE LEADERS IF THE FRONT-LINE FOUR PRESIDENTS CALLED ANOTHER ONE.

11. COMMENT: MUTAMBA IS PERSONALLY COMMITTED TO THE ARMED STRUGGLE. WHILE HE EXPRESSES CONSIDERABLE GOOD WILL TOWARDS THE U.S., HE DOES NOT SUPPORT USG INITIATIVES FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BECAUSE HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SMITH WILL EVER CONCEDE MAJORITY RULE, AND SEES CURRENT U.S. INITIATIVES AS MERELY DELAYING THE FINAL STAGES OF THE ARMED CONFLICT.
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